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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Ronghua Wei et al.

Filed: March 26, 2004

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FORMING A NITRIDE LAYER ON A BIOMEDICAL DEVICE

Serial No.: 10/811,485

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Atty Docket No.: SWRI:003

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.8, I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date below:

6-1-04

Date

Deleire Ferrara

Name

Commissioner For Patents
P. O. Box 1450
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REQUEST FOR EARLY PUBLICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.219

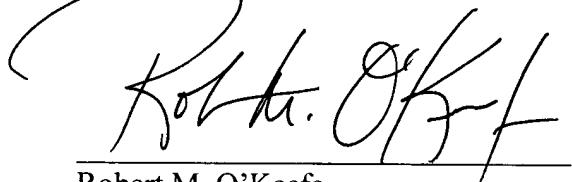
Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.219, Applicant hereby requests publication as soon as possible of the present application. The publication fee set forth in §1.18(d) is enclosed herewith. If the fee is missing, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct the fee from deposit account 10-1205.

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The Office is invited to contact the undersigned at 512-347-1611 with any questions or comments, or to otherwise facilitate expeditious prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,



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